to scheduled castes and scheduled tribes as primary and upper primary level under the scheme of Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA) within an upper ceiling of Rs. 150/- per child, except where State Governments have their own schemes. The scheme of SSA is being implemented in all States & Union Territories and has provided free textbooks to 5.35 crore eligible children in 2005-06.

Indian Institute of Science Education and Research at Punjab

1362. SHRI VARINDER SINGH BAJWA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have approved establishment of the Indian Institute of Science Education and Research in Punjab;

(b) whether the location has been identified to set up the Institute;

(c) the total cost of the project; and

(d) by when the project is likely to start?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MD. ALI ASHRAF FATMI): (a) Government has identified Punjab for the establishment of the third Indian Institute of Science Education and Research in the country.

(b) The Government of Punjab have identified 200 acres of land in SAS Nagar near Chandigarh.

(c) The total cost of the Project is estimated to be Rs. 500 crores excluding the cost of the land.

(d) The Project would be executed in the 11th Five Year Plan.

Caveat of AICTE to Students

1363. SHRIMATI S.G. INDIRA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the AICTE had cautioned students regarding some courses;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is also a fact that the AICTE had cautioned students not to seek admission in some colleges; and

(d) if so the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MD. ALI ASHRAF FATMI): (a) to (d) To caution the students about the unapproved programmes/courses, the All Indian Council for Technical Education (AICTE), has given a Public Notice dated 19.02.2006. The Council advised the students in the Public Notice that the following points must be taken into consideration before taking decision on admission into the courses/programmes of technical education that:

(i) the Courses/programmes are approved by AICTE;

(ii) the approved course/programmes are affiliated to concerned affiliating authority/University (Not applicable in case of PGDM/ PGDBN courses);

(iii) the Institution has adequate infrastructural, instructional and other facilities including faculty as per AICTE norms.

(iv) the programmes that are being run with the collaboration or in twinning arrangement with Foreign Institutions/Universities have the approval of AICTE.

The AICTE has also opened Student Facilitation Counters at the Headquarter and the Regional Offices where the required information in respect of approved technical programmes/courses is available. Also from the concerned institution's website disclosures, made mandatory by AICTE *inter-alia* on the profile of the faculty, teaching and learning process, fees, admission procedure, infrastructural facilities, placements etc. can be looked for by the students. Students can also send both their queries and suggestions on the ACITE website www.aicte.ernet.in

Introduction of new NCERT syllabus in States

1364. SHRI SHANTARAM LAXMAN NAIK: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the State Governments have introduced NCERT text books based on new syllabus;